

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, after the title, please insert the following:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a division of Application Serial No. 09/679,750, filed 10/05/2000 which is a continuation of application Serial No. 08/836,500, filed 08/11/97, which is a national stage 371 application of the international application, PCT/FR95/01463, now U.S. Patent No. 6,197,929, which claims foreign priority to application 94,13306 filed 07/11/1994 in France.

The paragraph beginning at line 13 of page 7 has been amended as follows:

The proteins of the MP fraction are dialysed against a 20 mM Tris/HCl, pH 8.0; 0.1% [z]Zwittergent 3-14 buffer, n-tetradecyl-N, N-dimethyl-3-ammonio-1-propane sulfate marketed by Calbiochem-Novabiochem Corp. The dialysate is loaded onto a column containing a support of the strong anion exchanger type (column of $\varnothing = 50$ mm x H = 250 mm, Biorad Macroprep® High Q gel) which is equilibrated in the above-described buffer. The P40 protein is eluted at an NaCl concentration of 50 mM in the equilibration buffer.

The paragraph beginning at line 21 of page 7 has been amended as follows:

The fractions containing the P40 are pooled and dialysed against a 20 mM citrate, pH 3.0; 0.1% [z]Zwittergent 3-14 buffer. The dialysate is loaded onto a column containing a support of the strong cation exchanger type (dimensions of the column: $\varnothing = 25$ mm x H = 160 mm, Biorad Macroprep® High S gel) which is equilibrated in the 20 mM citrate, pH 3.0; 0.1% [z]Zwittergent 3-14 buffer. The P40 protein is eluted at an NaCl concentration of 0.7 M. The fractions containing the P40 are pooled and concentrated 30 by ultrafiltration using a Minitan® Millipore

tangential flow filtration system employing membrane discs having a cutoff threshold of 10 kDa
marketed by Millipore Corp.

The paragraph beginning at line 12 of page 10 has been amended as follows:

Amplification

buffer:

25 mM Taps, pH 9.3

2 mM MgCl₂

0.1% Tween 20, polyoxyethylene (2) -

sorbitanemonolaureate marketed by Roche

Molecular Biochemicals